## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

KATO, et al.

Application No.:

**TBD** 

Filed:

March 10, 2004

For:

VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING

METHOD THEREFOR

Expected

**Group Art Unit:** 

3749

Expected

Examiner:

P. Wilson

## **CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 10, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC § 119 and 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2-225321, filed in Japan on August 29, 1990.

The certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was filed on August 29, 1991 in prior Application No. 07/751,951, filed August 29, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STQUT & KRAUS, LLP

William I. Solomon

Registration No. 28,565

1300 North Seventeenth Street

**Suite 1800** 

Arlington, VA 22209 Tel.: 703-312-6600 Fax.: 703-312-6666

WIS/dmw